Promotion of Trade with Qatar and UAE

723. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Qatar and United Arab Emirates have expressed their keenness to promote bilateral trade with India;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what are the details of the main items of bilateral trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Govt. is also keen to promote trade with these countries.

(c) The main items of exports to UAE and Qatar are foodstuff including meat and fish, agricultural products, engineering goods, chemicals, gem & jewellery, handicrafts, tobacco, rice and textiles. Major imports from these countries are crude oil, sulpher, pulp and waste paper, transport equipment etc.

Income Earned by MMTC on Potash Trade

724. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3860 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th March, 1993 and state the details of income received by MMTC, such as, the date of each remittance received from the parties and their names and addresses for each year separately for the period from 1986-87 to 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : The required details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Demurrage Charges on Canpotex Claimed by MMTC

725. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether MMTC has made any claim on M|s. Canpotex on account of demurrage|despatch;

(b) if so, what is the total amount claimed for the years from 1986 to 1992 on account of demurrage for each year separately and the payment received;

(c) whether it is also a fact that as per the terms and conditions of the contract such claims must be made within 20 days and settled within 60 days after the claims have been raised; and

(d) what action is taken for the default if this is not done by MMTC ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount claimed by MMTC on M|s. Canpotex on account of demurrage|despatch since 1986-87 and the amount received for each year has been as under :

Year	MMTC's Dcs/Dem US $	Amount recd. US $
1	2	3
1986-87	75225.00	75225.08
1987-88	207268.00	207268.00